

REMARKS

By the present Amendment, claims 11 and 12 have been cancelled. Accordingly, claims 1-5, 7-10, 13, and 14 are now pending in the application. Claims 1 and 14 are independent.


Applicants respectfully request entry of the foregoing amendments as they do not effect the scope of any other claims pending in the proceedings, and further reduce the number of issues on appeal.

If the Examiner believes that there are any matters which can be resolved by way of either a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the number indicated below.

AUTHORIZATION

Applicants request any shortage or excess in fees in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, and for which no other form of payment is offered, be charged or credited to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 389.46211X00).

Respectfully submitted,
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